

Aerial Photo / Video Suggestions

BACKGROUND

This paper contains suggestions for taking Photos / Video from an aircraft. This paper came about after customers expressed some confusion as to what is taken, at what angles, and where the points of reference were. Keep in mind that Requesting agencies will have different sets of requirements. This paper is not intended to replace these requirements but to clarify a method that would accomplish the task.

METHOD

1. The Pilot will fly the aircraft.
2. The Observer will direct the pilot to the target.
 - o The maps we look at daily have an orientation of NORTH towards the top
3. We should use this standard for our first view. (North is up on picture)
4. The Observer, who usually takes the pictures, sits on the right side of the plane.
5. The passenger, if any should be looking out that side.

SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Each site should include what range of pictures apply.

Picture quality should be at least 1024 x 768. (About 750 kb or .75 mb in size).

3x to 10x optical zoom. (Do Not use digital zoom)

The plane will be making right turns around a point (Clockwise)

Two complete cycles of pictures:

First set contains an overview from all angles.

Second set contains close ups of target from all angles

Pilot will fly a tighter circle.

Third set, if requested, will be a pass over target with best view straight down.

The pictures will be taken: (OVERVIEW)

NORTH – Aircraft going East to West.

EAST – Aircraft going South to North.

SOUTH – Aircraft going West to East.

WEST – Aircraft going North to South.

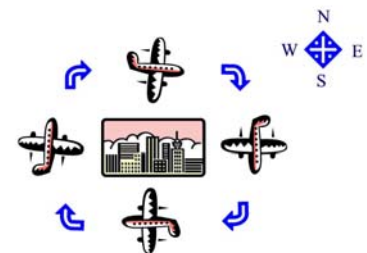
The pictures will be taken: (CLOSE UPS)

NORTH – Aircraft going East to West.

EAST – Aircraft going South to North.

SOUTH – Aircraft going West to East.

WEST – Aircraft going North to South.



Camera Settings.

FLASH OFF

Shutter priority, if possible, 1/800 – 1/1000 - etc of a second.

ISO setting of 200, 400 or 800

Burst mode for multiple shots.

SAFETY

At no time should the pilot have to apply additional power to satisfy the photo flight.

Additional power will increase the awareness of the aircraft presence.

The attitude of the plane should remain somewhat constant.

If a set of pictures requires another pass stay within these limits.